

Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program

The Delaware State Fire Marshal's Office has a unique program entitled "Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program". Because Delaware is a small state, our office takes pride in being the only state in which a juvenile firesetter intervention program is administered to the entire state through one agency. This includes the four municipalities of Wilmington, New Castle, Newark, and Dover.

When a child is referred to our program, a trained screener will interview the child in the individual's home with his/her primary caretaker present at a time most convenient to the family. After the interview, recommendations will be made to the child's caretaker as to the appropriate service or combination of services indicated. Any assistance with these referrals is provided upon the family's request. The program is strictly confidential and the information obtained from the interview cannot be shared with anyone without the written consent of the caregiver.

For further information, or to refer a child between the ages of three and seventeen, you may e-mail us or phone our toll free number at 1-800-432-8500. Please be sure to list the parent or caretaker's contact information.

Public Relations

As well as conducting interviews, the Juvenile Intervention Program also handles most of the public relations for the office. In addition to our display trailer, the office also maintains three board displays for inside events.

The Delaware State Fire Marshal's Office welcomes any invitation on a first come basis.

F.E.A.R. Program

Last year our Fire Education Arson Resistance (F.E.A.R.) Program was administered in six selected middle schools throughout the state. These schools had exhibited a high amount of fire play activity both in and out of the school. The program was staffed by DSFMO employees, in each of those schools one day a week educating the students as to the consequences of fire play and making the student aware of the laws pertaining to those activities.

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As a result of our program, the fire play in those schools reduced from as much as 15 incidents in the 2004-2005 school year, to only 4 in the following school year. The program also increased the fire safety knowledge of those students by over 60%. In the 2005-2006 school year, 2,970 students participated in the program over a period of 112 school days.

At present, students in other schools continue to receive knowledge on seven basic fire safety issues, laws and consequences pertaining to fire setting, along with a pre-test, a review, and a post-test. Our F.E.A.R. program continues to receive great reviews from both the teaching staff and administrators of the participating schools.

For more information on the F.E.A.R. Program you may e-mail us or phone our toll free number at 1-800-432-8500.